

Remark

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1, 14, and 24 have been amended. Claims 5, 17, and 26 have been reinstated. No claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-28 are now presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

Abatchev

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 6-8, 13-16, 18, 19, 24, 25 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (e) as being anticipated by Abatchev, U.S. Publication No. 2003/0024643 (“Abatchev”). The claims have been amended to refer to a control loop to control the output of the power supply to control the amplitude of the high power pulse to increase the reaction rate of a plasma. Such a control loop is neither taught nor suggested in Abatchev.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Abatchev in view of Pan et al.

The Examiner has rejected claims 11, 12, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Abatchev, in view of Pan et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,679,981 (Pan). Pan fails to teach or suggest the limitations missing from Abatchev discussed above.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 9, 10, 20, 21 and 27 would be allowable. These claims remain in the application.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

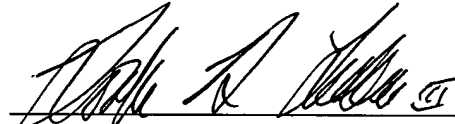
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 11/3/5



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